

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 16, 2010

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009–10 REGULAR SESSION

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 141**

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**Introduced by ~~Assembly Members Fletcher and Assembly Member~~  
Blakeslee  
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Fletcher)**

March 3, 2010

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 141—Relative to Viral Hepatitis Awareness Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 141, as amended, ~~Fletcher~~ *Blakeslee*. Viral Hepatitis Awareness Day.

This measure would ~~declare~~ *proclaim* May 19, 2010, ~~to be~~ *as* Viral Hepatitis Awareness Day in California.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Liver cancer and liver disease related to hepatitis  
2 B and C are two of the leading killers in California; and  
3 WHEREAS, Hepatitis C is the most prevalent blood-borne  
4 disease in the United States and in California; and  
5 WHEREAS, Early detection of hepatitis B or C infection  
6 promotes effective management or treatment of these infections,  
7 preventing disability, loss of productivity and income, and allowing  
8 people to live full, satisfying, and productive lives; and  
9 WHEREAS, Undetected and untreated hepatitis B or C infection  
10 can lead to disability or death; and  
11 WHEREAS, The majority of the estimated 500,000 Californians  
12 with chronic hepatitis C infection do not know they are infected,

1 and are therefore at high risk of severe liver disease, liver cancer,  
2 or liver failure; and

3 WHEREAS, The majority of the estimated 125,000 California  
4 residents with hepatitis B infection do not know they are infected,  
5 and are therefore at high risk of severe liver disease, liver cancer,  
6 or liver failure; and

7 WHEREAS, Untreated hepatitis B and C are the leading causes  
8 of liver failure requiring liver transplant; and

9 WHEREAS, There is a vaccine for the prevention of hepatitis  
10 B, the first proven, low-cost vaccination against any form of cancer  
11 made available to Americans; and

12 WHEREAS, The cost of hospitalizations for liver cancer and  
13 liver disease reached \$2 billion in California in 2007, mostly paid  
14 for by tax-supported public health insurers; and

15 WHEREAS, Hepatitis awareness education campaigns and  
16 accessible screening for hepatitis B and C, along with appropriate  
17 treatment, can reduce the damage from hepatitis B and C viral  
18 infection to individuals and to our community, financially, as well  
19 as physically and emotionally; now, therefore, be it

20 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
21 *thereof concurring, That May 19, 2010, is hereby proclaimed by*  
22 ~~the Legislature~~ *the Legislature of the State of California hereby*  
23 *proclaims May 15, 2010, as Viral Hepatitis Awareness Day; and*  
24 *be it further*

25 *Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies*  
26 *of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.*